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Foreign Crops and MARKETS



VOLUME 56

NUMBER 9

GRAIN SUPPLIES IN EXPORTING AREAS (Page 148)

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FOR RELEASE

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

L A T E N E W S

Exports of fresh vegetables from Cuba for January totaled slightly over 6 million pounds, 4 million less than during the same period last year and less than half the amount shipped during the 3 years 1939-41. Tomatoes made up 87 percent of the month's total.

Excessive rains and blight were reflected in early January tomato shipments. Dusting for blight has been moderately successful and the quality of late January shipments has improved. Early estimates that the Cuban crop would be only 50 percent of normal have been revised upward and exports may reach 35 million pounds.

Fresh vegetable shipments from Habana to the United States
November-January, 1947-48 with comparison

Kind	November-January		
	3-year average		
	1938-1940	1946-47	1947-48
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Tomatoes	21,752	12,337	7,443
Eggplant	1,918	172	3
Peppers	994	1/	34
Okra	768	259	57
Lima beans in pods	2,308	0	0
Lima beans, frozen	0	924	287
Cucumbers..	1,565	1,487	609
Potatoes	238	0	0
Others	322	281	238
Total	29,865	15,460	8,671

Compiled from official sources.

1/ Less than 500 pounds.

Cattle numbers in Denmark as of December 1947 totaled 2,668,000 head, compared with 3,004,000 a year ago, a decline of 11 percent. Cows numbered 1,410,000 in comparison with 1,560,000 head a year earlier. Heifers and calves dropped to 524,000 and 663,000 head, respectively, compared with 596,000 and 758,000 in December 1946. Bulls declined to 37,000 head from 46,000 a year previous, while bullocks were 34,000 as compared with 44,000. The total number of cattle is over 3 percent below the wartime low reached in January 1943. Cows, however, are about 2 percent above.

The cattle slaughter in Denmark during the past several years, and particularly in the past year has been exceedingly heavy and is now being reflected in decreased cattle numbers. Shortage of both domestic and imported feeds and a desire to obtain foreign exchange are believed to be the factors that contributed to this reduction.

(Continued on Page 159)

GRAIN SUPPLIES IN EXPORTING AREAS SMALLER

Total supplies of grain in the four principal exporting countries, as of January 1, 1948, were estimated at 123 million short tons, the smallest in recent years, according to information available in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

The reduction is due, principally, to the significant decline in the 1947 United States corn crop, and, in lesser degree, to the reduction in oats in both the United States and Canada. Breadgrain supplies in the four countries, in contrast, are somewhat larger than at the beginning of the past 2 years, though still not up to the high level of 1944 and 1945.

The supply of 123 million tons of all grains was about 8 percent less than on January 1, 1947, but was more than 20 percent below the large stocks at the beginning of 1944 and 1945. Reduced supplies reflect the heavy export movement during July-December of the current crop year, as well as the reduced crop of feedgrains in the Northern Hemisphere. Exports of breadgrains and coarse-grains together amounted to 17.8 million short tons during that period, out of the estimated export supplies of 32.5 million short tons in the four countries. This compares with 12.7 million tons exported during the last 6 months of 1946.

Supplies considered in this report include the recently harvested crop of small grains in Argentina and Australia as well as the remaining stocks of old grain. (Harvesting of small grains in the Southern Hemisphere becomes general in December.) The corn supply in Argentina, however, is, like supplies of all grains in Northern Hemisphere countries, exclusively old-crop grain remaining from the last harvest. (The corn harvest in Argentina normally gets actively under way in April.)

Total grain stocks in the United States on January 1, at 85 million short tons, were about 15 percent below the January 1, 1947 stocks. Heavy reductions in the production of corn and oats greatly outweighed the increases in other grains. The corn crop alone showed a reduction of 850 million bushels, and was the smallest corn outturn since the drought year of 1936. Oats production, though about 280 million bushels smaller than the 1946 crop was still above average. Only partially balancing those losses, were the increases from the record wheat crop and the slightly increased barley and rye outturns. Exports from the United States during the last 6 months of the calendar year were at a record figure, amounting to 9.4 million short tons of all grains, which further reduced the level of stocks. For the comparable period of 1946 the total was 5.8 million tons.

Canada's stocks, estimated at 15.5 million short tons on January 1 were about 13 percent less than the low stocks at the beginning of 1947. Significant reductions in the production of wheat and oats account for a large part of the decline in stocks. July-December exports of wheat also were large in relation to total supply. Following the reduced harvest of barley and oats, however, exports of these grains virtually ceased.

January 1 supplies of all grains in Argentina, including, as already mentioned, the smallgrain harvest largely completed by early January 1, are estimated

(Text continued on Page 158; table follows)

GRAINS: Estimated supplies in the principal exporting countries,
January 1, 1944-1948 a/

Country and year	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats	Corn	Total
	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	1,000 Short tons
<u>United States</u>						
1944	818	43	218	753	2,021	99,612
1945	828	26	213	792	2,180	104,392
1946	682	13	192	1,065	1,904	95,784
1947	642	9	176	934	2,208	100,504
1948	795	14	188	790	1,567	85,270
<u>Canada</u>						
1944	692	14	181	b/ 427	c/	32,755
1945	592	8	140	b/ 395	c/	28,059
1946	345	3	100	b/ 280	c/	17,594
1947	330	6	110	b/ 300	c/	17,808
1948	295	4	115	b/ 225	c/	15,547
<u>Argentina</u>						
1944	443	19	35	68	25	16,450
1945	330	13	35	90	130	16,184
1946	225	15	53	72	40	10,714
1947	235	24	60	53	50	11,410
1948	255	20	50	50	110	13,290
<u>Australia</u>						
1944	251	c/	8	23	c/	8,090
1945	112	c/	6	12	c/	3,696
1946	145	c/	10	30	c/	5,070
1947	125	c/	13	25	c/	4,462
1948	235	c/	30	45	c/	8,490
<u>Total</u>						
1944	2,204	76	442	1,271	2,046	156,907
1945	1,862	47	394	1,289	2,310	152,331
1946	1,397	31	355	1,447	1,944	129,162
1947	1,332	39	359	1,312	2,258	134,184
1948	1,580	38	383	1,110	1,677	122,597

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics, reports of United States foreign service officers, or other information.

a/ Data for Northern Hemisphere countries represent January 1 stocks; estimates for Southern Hemisphere countries include new crop of small grains as well as estimated stocks of old grain on January 1.

b/ Bushels of 34 pounds.

c/ Production small and no estimate of supplies available.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

TOBACCO

CANADA'S LEAF EXPORTS
GAIN IN 1947

Canada's exports of leaf tobacco in 1947 totaled 24.5 million pounds, or nearly double the 12.6 million exported in 1946. During the prewar (1935-39) period Canada exported an average of 15.3 million pounds of leaf tobacco annually. Most of the 1947 exports were destined to the United Kingdom. The British West Indies took most of the remainder. Of the total 1947 exports, 23 million pounds consisted of flue-cured, and about one million Burley. Dark, and other leaf made up the balance -- about 500,000 pounds.

CANADA: Exports of leaf tobacco, by type, 1947 with comparisons

Type of leaf	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947 a/
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Flue-cured.....	11,656	13,481	10,965	22,989
Burley.....	2,069	1,678	1,292	990
Dark.....	839	266	257	320
Other.....	730	143	77	194
Total	15,294	15,568	12,591	24,493
Official sources. a/ Preliminary				

NORWAY'S TOBACCO IMPORTS AND
CONSUMPTION ABOVE PREWAR

In 1947, Norway's imports of unmanufactured tobacco totaled 9.1 million pounds, of which the United States supplied 7.7 million pounds, or 85 percent of the total. In prewar (1935-39) years Norway's tobacco imports averaged 6.6 million pounds annually. The United States' share during prewar averaged 5.1 million pounds, or 77 percent. Most of the leaf imported from this country consists of flue-cured, dark Virginia, and Burley. Turkey and Greece were the other chief supplying countries last year.

NORWAY: Imports of unmanufactured tobacco, 1947 with comparisons

Country of origin	Average 1935-39	1946	1947 a/
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds
United States.....	5,089	8,111	7,654
Turkey.....	391	831	470
Greece.....	349	55	373
Bulgaria.....	346	b/	150
Netherlands Indies.....	138	b/	15
Others.....	289	578	451
Total.....	6,602	9,575	9,113

Official sources.

a/ Preliminary

b/ If any, included with others.

Stocks of leaf in Norway are somewhat below the prewar level -- in the face of increasing consumption. Present stocks are about 9 million pounds, compared with an average of 10.5 million during the immediate prewar period.

For 1947, it is estimated that manufacturers utilized about 10.1 million pounds of leaf, against an average of 7.3 million in prewar years. The distribution of leaf utilized last year, by product, was approximately as follows: cigarettes 4,189,000 pounds, smoking tobacco 4,409,000 pounds, cigars 132,000 pounds, chewing tobacco 750,000 pounds, and snuff 661,000 pounds.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

PERU HAS RICE SHORTAGE; ACREAGE INCREASED

Peruvian rice supplies are virtually exhausted and imports are contemplated from Ecuador in order to avert a serious shortage before the May harvest. Dry weather reduced last season's crop and there were no rice imports in 1947.

The 1948 area planted to rice is the largest on record, according to early season prospects. Transplanting took place in January, and water supplies are reported adequate for the production of a large crop.

Peru has increased rice production in recent years. The small 1947 harvest amounted to 6,448,000 bushels (189 million pounds milled), according to an unofficial estimate. The record of 8,291,000 bushels (243 million pounds) in 1946, however, compares with the prewar of 4,578,000 bushels (134 million pounds). In the five years before 1947, net imports ranged from 5 to 42 million pounds.

MEXICO PLANS INCREASED GRAIN PRODUCTION

The recently announced Agricultural Plan for Mexico calls for expanding production of essential crops, including corn and wheat, from 1948 through 1952. A high level of production is planned for the current year, with both corn and wheat expected to be at near-record figures. No increase is planned for barley, the only other grain of significance there, excepting rice.

The plan, which is believed to have a good chance for success if weather conditions are favorable, calls for a corn acreage of about 9 million acres. This would be, with one exception, the largest area on record for that country. The program calls for making available an additional 525,000 acres for corn this year. About 250,000 acres of this added acreage would be in new irrigation districts; 125,000 acres by new wells and pumps, and 150,000 acres of humid land shifted from other crops. Plans are also underway for raising improved seed corn in ten States of the central plateau, this seed to be used for the 1949 planting.

General expansion is reported in the area seeded to wheat, the second grain of importance in the Mexican economy. The Plan called for an increase

to about 1.5 million acres. Current reports indicate that the acreage may exceed that figure. Substantial increases are reported in the wheat acreages of all areas except southern Sonora, where moisture deficiency held up seeding. The expanded area in other States was on old irrigation areas.

(Continued on Page 156)

FATS AND OILS

U. S. COPRA AND COCONUT OIL IMPORTS REACH ALL-TIME HIGH

Copra and coconut oil (in terms of copra) imports into the United States in 1947 reached the all-time high of 696,000 short tons, compared with 397,000 in 1946 and 502,000, the 1935-39 average. This represents increases of 76 and 39 percent over the 1946 and prewar average imports, respectively. Practically 99 percent of the total came from the Philippine Islands and 97 percent was in the form of copra.

UNITED STATES: Copra and coconut oil imports,
1947 with comparisons

Country of origin	Copra			Coconut oil		
	Average:			Average:		
	1935-39:	1946	1947	1935-39:	1946	1947
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
British Oceania.....	7,120:	9,651:	--	--	908	--
Canada.....	241:	--	--	1:	1,445	1,513
French Pacific Islands.....	348:	9,176:	--	--	--	--
Pacific Mandated Islands.....	--	406:	3,566:	--	--	--
Mexico.....	--	--	--	--	--	1,040
Netherlands Indies.....	3,163:	--	1,732:	--	--	--
New Hebrides.....	--	952:	--	--	--	--
New Zealand.....	885:	3,721:	--	--	--	--
Philippine Islands.....	217,619:	370,790:	672,362:	342,695:	--	21,006
Others.....	468:	--	--	21:	--	--
Total.....	229,844:	394,696:	677,660:	342,717:	2,353	23,559

Compiled from official sources.

U. S. IMPORTS OF FLAXSEED AND LINSEED OIL DOWN

United States 1947 imports of flaxseed and linseed oil (in terms of oil) totaled 123 million pounds, 23 percent less than the 1946 imports and 65 percent less than the 1935-39 average. Approximately 96 percent of the total quantity imported was oil, of which 86 percent originated in Argentina.

UNITED STATES: Flaxseed and linseed oil imports,
1947 with comparisons

Country of origin	Flaxseed			Linseed oil		
	Average:			Average:		
	1935-39:	1946	1947	1935-39:	1946	1947
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
Canada.	127	138	38	25	12,059	5,813
Mexico.	1	200	244	a/	1,326	1,939
Argentina	17,265	490	-	-	76,614	100,944
Brazil.	-	-	-	-	221	3,063
Uruguay	355	2,566	-	-	4,184	1,113
Netherlands . . .	-	-	-	654	-	4,409
United Kingdom. .	-	a/	-	29	1	13
India.	537	-	-	-	-	28
Others	185	a/	-	5	-	4
Total	18,470	3,394	282	713	94,405	117,326

Compiled from official sources.

a/ Less than 500.

U.S. CASTOR-BEAN
IMPORTS INCREASE

The United States imported 131 million pounds of castor-beans and oil (in terms of oil) in 1947, an increase of 21 percent over last year's imports and 118 percent over the 1935-39 average. Imports of castor-beans, amounting to 277 million pounds, far exceeded the imports of oil as such. Over 90 percent of the total came from Brazil.

UNITED STATES: Castor-bean and castor oil imports,
1947 with comparisons

	Castor-beans			Castor oil		
	Average:			Average:		
	1935-39:	1946	1947	1935-39:	1946	1947
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
North America:						
El Salvador.....	-	-	896	-	-	29
Guatemala.....	4	34	46	-	-	21
Haiti.....	267	5,855	6,609	-	-	-
Mexico.....	-	18	46	-	348	286
South America:						
Argentina.....	537	2,207	-	-	882	657
Brazil.....	122,911	217,392	266,415	-	4,321	-
Ecuador.....	13	789	2,434	-	-	4,607
Asia:						
British Malaya.....	-	-	-	-	-	422
India.....	3,920	-	-	-	-	-
Siam.....	-	-	361	-	125	498
Others.....	5,272	-	-	226	550	75
Total.....	132,924	226,295	276,807	226	6,450	6,595

Compiled from official sources.

BURMA'S SESAME SEED CROP BELOW NORMAL

Burma's sesame-seed crop for 1947-48 is forecast at 50,000 short tons from one million acres, according to the third official estimate. This represents almost 16,000 tons more than the quantity harvested in 1946-47 but about 7,000 tons less than the prewar average. The below-normal output was the result of unfavorable rains.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

AUSTRIA RELEASES LIVESTOCK CENSUS

The Austrian livestock census for November 18, 1947 indicates that all species of livestock in that country showed a slight increase over a year earlier. Hog and sheep numbers reflected the largest increase and cattle numbers actually decreased slightly. Cattle numbers reported are 17 percent below prewar, while hog numbers were about 40 percent under the prewar level. Sheep and horses exceed prewar numbers.

From the census data, it can be assumed that the trend of hog, sheep, and horse numbers is definitely upward, and cattle accordingly are practically holding their own. The rate of restoration of cattle and hog numbers, however, will depend on the availability of feed supplies, the number of breeding stock holdings and the availability of breeding stock.

AUSTRIA: Number of livestock on November 18, 1947 with comparisons

Classification	Dec. 3, 1938	Dec. 3, 1945	Dec. 3, 1946	Nov. 18, 1947
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
<u>Cattle</u>				
Calves under 1 year.....	517	357	442	457
Yearlings.....	421	298	289	308
Heifers, 2 years and over:	131	132	135	140
Steers, 2 years and over..	249	232	199	185
Milk cows.....	1,216	1,145	1,121	1,048
Other cows.....	45	23	20	20
Total Cattle.....	2,579	2,187	2,206	2,158
<u>Hogs</u>				
Pigs under 6 months.....	1,523	419	761	910
Boars.....	43	23	36	33
Sows.....	338	190	213	246
Slaughter hogs.....	964	398	480	535
Total.....	2,868	1,030	1,490	1,724
<u>Sheep</u>	315	391	399	474
<u>Goats</u>	349	247	272	310
<u>Horses</u>				
Under 2 years.....	25	43	38	39
2 years and over.....	222	221	236	244
Total.....	247	264	274	283

Compiled from official sources.

ARGENTINA ESTABLISHES EXPORT QUOTAS FOR POWDERED AND CONDENSED MILK

The Argentine Department of Industry and Commerce has established quotas for the export of powdered milk and condensed milk in the first quarter of 1948. The export quota for powdered milk has been fixed at 4,850 thousand pounds, that for condensed milk at 882 thousand pounds.

Although France has not renewed its contract with Argentina for the purchase of powdered milk, production for export has been well maintained in recent months because of orders from other countries, particularly Belgium and Switzerland. Currently, the price for this commodity is reported to be about 34 cents per pound if packed in bags, approximately 41 cents if packed in cans, both f.a.s. Buenos Aires.

Only one processing plant in Argentina is known to be engaged in the manufacture of condensed milk at the present time. The demand for this item has been confined largely to orders in Latin America, although Belgium is reported to have developed an interest in this item in recent months.

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

BRAZIL'S COFFEE EXPORTS BELOW LAST YEAR

According to preliminary data, Brazil's 1947 exports of green coffee totaled 14.7 million bags, compared with 15.5 million bags in 1946 and a prewar average of 15.1 million bags.

Coffee exports in 1947 to all areas, except Europe, were below those of 1946. The largest reduction was in exports to the United States which dropped from 10.9 million bags in 1946 to 9.7 million in 1947. Shipments to other Western Hemisphere countries, Africa, Asia and Oceania were only slightly lower. Although Brazilian coffee exports to Europe increased from about 3 million to 3.5 million bags, they are still far below the prewar average of 5.7 million bags after. World War I European coffee imports quickly regained the prewar volume, but recovery following World War II is proceeding at a much slower rate.

BRAZIL: Exports of green coffee, 1947 with comparisons

Destination	: Average : : 1935-39 : : 1,000 : : bags :	: 1945 : : 1,000 : : bags :	: 1946 a/ : : 1,000 : : bags :	: 1947 b/ : : 1,000 : : bags :
United States	: 8,331 :	: 11,691 :	: 10,947 :	: 9,755 :
Other Western Hemisphere..	: 479 :	: 916 :	: 1,055 :	: 967 :
Europe	: 5,675 :	: 1,554 :	: 2,994 :	: 3,535 :
Africa	: 509 :	: 11 :	: 279 :	: 257 :
Asia and Oceania	: 98 :	: - :	: 230 :	: 176 :
Not specified	: 3 :	: - :	: - :	: - :
Total	: 15,093 :	: 14,172 :	: 15,505 :	: 14,690 :

Compiled from official statistics and foreign service reports.

a/ Revised. b/ Preliminary.

(Continued on Page 156)

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

(Continued from Page 152)

FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION IN
INDIA AGAIN SMALL

Foodgrain production in India, including Pakistan, is expected to be about the same as the small 1946-47 production, tentatively placed at 67 million short tons, according to present reports. The decline in production last year was caused by unfavorable weather and wheat damage from rust.

Present low prospects are attributed to unfavorable weather early in the season and to some decline in acreage. Heavy floods were reported in September, in the important producing Punjab and along the Jumna River. Dry conditions following the failure of the usual rains of November and December in southern India retarded crop development there. Weather conditions during the summer were reported to be generally favorable.

Some land has been diverted from foodgrains to higher priced cash crops, despite the injunctions of the Grow-More-Food campaign, according to late reports. In addition, much land in the wheat growing Punjab has been left unseeded because of rioting and the mass migration of more than 8 million persons since the partition of the country.

The Indian Union accounted for about 50 million short tons of the total breadgrains produced in 1946-47 and Pakistan 17 million tons. Much of West Pakistan is irrigated land which has, in the past, produced surpluses of foodgrains (principally wheat and rice) for use in other parts of India and some exports.

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

(Continued from Page 155)

UNITED STATES COFFEE IMPORTS
FALL BELOW LAST YEAR'S HIGH

According to preliminary figures, United States coffee imports during 1947 amounted to 2.5 billion pounds, valued at \$600,285,000. This is about 200,000,000 pounds below last year's record imports but higher prices increased the total value, approximately \$130,000,000 over 1946. In 1935-39 imports averaged 1.8 billion pounds which were valued at \$139,723,000.

Brazil supplied about 53 percent of 1947 coffee imports, Colombia 26 percent, other American producing countries 19 percent, and all others 2 percent. In prewar (1935-39) years, Brazil accounted for 60 percent of United States coffee imports, Colombia 22 percent, other American producing countries 15 percent, and all others 3 percent.

UNITED STATES: Coffee Imports for consumption
1947 with comparisons a/

	1945	1946	1947 <u>b/</u>
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
<u>North America</u>			
Canada	-	<u>c/</u>	<u>c/</u>
Costa Rica	44,649	24,890	34,295
El Salvador	120,570	83,400	118,546
Guatemala	105,283	93,401	106,645
Honduras	5,872	4,618	3,234
Mexico	73,142	72,369	70,307
Nicaragua	27,209	26,574	22,428
Panama Republic	-	-	<u>c/</u>
Panama Canal Zone	644	155	1,305
<u>Caribbean:</u>			
Cuba	1,556	-	-
Dominican Republic	34,523	16,394	23,306
Haiti	61,944	20,488	14,036
British West Indies	1,095	725	80
Total	476,487	343,014	394,182
<u>South America</u>			
Argentina	-	-	285
Brazil	1,547,322	1,540,728	1,323,065
Colombia	601,973	687,318	643,368
Ecuador	16,008	8,161	13,016
Peru	4,248	1,709	1,453
Venezuela	61,827	92,711	68,695
Total	2,231,378	2,330,627	2,049,882
Europe	-	310	-
Africa	8,615	54,714	52,500
Asia	-	471	3,957
Grand Total	2,716,480	2,729,136	2,500,521
Value (1,000 dollars)	345,749	470,053	600,285

Official sources.

a/ Data for 1945 and 1946 are for green coffee only. A small amount of roast-coffee is included in 1947 figures.

b/ Preliminary.

c/ Less than 500 pounds.

GRAIN SUMMARY (Continued from Page 148)

at 13.3 million short tons. This would be an increase of about 17 percent compared with supplies at the beginning of 1947, but is considerably smaller than the supply at the beginning of 1944 and 1945. Official estimates of current production have not yet been released, but latest indications point to above-average crops of wheat, rye, and barley, but a below-average harvest of oats.

Total grain supplies in Australia were estimated at 8.5 million tons, of which over 80 percent was wheat. The latest estimate of a record wheat outturn of 228 million bushels is almost double last year's small harvest and is expected to provide a surplus for export of about 145 million bushels. Considerable quantities of the grain are reported to be of low quality as a result of heavy rains at harvest time. A high percentage of wheat below fair average quality standards is expected to be sold for milling.

Considering total supplies in the four countries on a commodity basis, wheat shows up in the most favorable and corn in the least favorable position. Barley stocks are moderately larger than in 1947, while rye supplies show little change from those of a year ago. Supplies of oats in the four countries are about 200 million bushels smaller than in 1947.

Wheat: Supplies on January 1 were placed at 1,580 million bushels in the four exporting countries, a gain of 19 percent compared with supplies at the beginning of 1947. Substantial increases in the United States and Australia are the notable features, with the decline in the Canadian stocks more than balancing a slight increase in the Argentine supply. Even with the indicated increase in wheat supplies, however, exportable surpluses again fall considerably short of the world's import requirements.

Rye: The total supply is estimated at 38 million bushels, little change from the supply of 39 million a year earlier. While the net change is slight percentage-wise, the shifts from last year's position in the different areas are significant. Stocks in the United States are somewhat larger, those in Canada and Argentina smaller than they were a year ago.

Barley: Stocks are estimated at 383 million bushels, compared with 359 million a year ago. Both the United States and Canada show slight gains compared with stocks on January 1, 1947. The largest increase, however, is reported for Australia, where a record crop was harvested. The Argentine supply was smaller than that of 1947.

Oats: The supply of 1,110 million bushels was the smallest of recent years, with substantial declines in the Northern Hemisphere countries, a slight reduction from Argentina's low level of a year ago and a significant increase for Australia. A record crop for the latter country accounts for the good gain there.

Corn: Total supplies placed at 1,677 million bushels contrast with the total of 2,258 million a year earlier. The comparatively low level of the United States stocks, following the poor crop outturn in 1947 accounts for the marked change. The previous United States crop was the largest on record. Prospects

for the Argentine harvest beginning this month are promising, and the crop is expected to be somewhat larger than last year's outturn of around 230 million bushels.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of C.M. Purves, Acting Chairman, Robert L. Gastineau, Judith E. Downey, John J. Haggerty and Montell E. Ogdon.

L A T E N E W S

(Continued from Page 147)

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets, converted at current rates of exchange:

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths
and qualities in specific markets

Market location kind, and quality	Date 1948	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
Alexandria		: Kantar	:	:	:
Ashmouni, Good.....	2-19	99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	72.00	60.07
Ashmouni, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Giza 7, Good	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Giza 7, F.G.F.	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	85.00	70.92
Karnak, F.G.F.	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Bombay		: Candy	:	:	:
Jarila, Fine	"	784 lbs.	: Rupee	588.00	22.63
Broach, Fine	"	"	"	708.00	27.24
Sind American, Fine	"	"	"	800.00	30.78
Punjab " 289-F, Fine	"	"	"	810.00	31.17
Kampala, East African.....	"	"	"	920.00	35.40
Buenos Aires		: Metric ton	:	:	:
Type B	2-20	2204.6 lbs.	: Peso	(not reported)	
Lima		: Sp. quintal	:	:	:
Tanguis, Type 5	2-19	101.4 lbs.	: Sol	* 170.00	25.79
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	208.00	31.55
Recife		: Arroba	:	:	:
Mata, Type 5	2-20	33.07 lbs.	: Cruzeiro	130.00	21.39
Seraao, Type 5	"	"	"	145.00	23.86
Sao Paulo		:	:	:	:
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	"	"	171.50	28.22
Torreón		: Sp. quintal	:	:	:
Middling 15/16"		101.4 lbs.	: Peso	157.00	31.85

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

* Nominal.

(Continued on next page)

L A T E N E W S

(Continued from preceding page)

The S.S. Santa Isabel sailed from Valparaiso, Chile on February 19 for New York carrying 115 cases (22 pounds per case) of fresh grapes.

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The 1948 pineapple crop in Brazil is forecast at 90 million fruits, 22 percent above the 74 million produced in 1947, and 17 percent more than the 77 million produced in 1946 and the 5 years 1942-46.

Pineapple acreage for 1948 will be around 31,000 acres, the same as in 1947. Acreage has increased steadily since 1942 when 22,000 acres were planted but because of abnormally heavy rainfall yields have decreased.

Fresh pineapple is one of the most popular and abundant fruits in Brazil and only about 2 percent is exported, principally to Argentina.

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